

## **Sutter County Election Observer Panel Plan for the *2010 November General Election***

### **County and System Information**

|                |                                                         |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| County:        | Sutter                                                  |
| Contact:       | Donna Johnston, Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters      |
| Phone:         | 530-822-7122                                            |
| Vendor/System: | Dominion Voting Systems/ AVC Edge II, 400C Optical Scan |
| Date:          | October 21, 2010                                        |

The purpose of an Election Observer Panel Plan is to provide an avenue for public observation of and input into the election process, assist in ensuring the integrity of the election process, and encourage participation and build voter confidence in the election process.

A media release and letters of invitation to participate have been sent to groups or individuals who have expressed an interest in observing Election Day activities to comprise the Election Observer Panel for the General Election.

After the groups have provided the names of interested panelists, appointments will be made to the panel. Each individual will be given a list of the polling places and an introduction letter to use when visiting the polling places, along with the General Rules for Observers which follows.

### **Observer Panel Feedback**

Participants on the Observer Panel are encouraged to submit feedback regarding their experience. This feedback can be submitted in writing, by email or in person. Written feedback can be submitted to Sutter County Elections, 1435 Veterans Memorial Circle, Yuba City, CA 95993. Email can be submitted to [elections@co.sutter.ca.us](mailto:elections@co.sutter.ca.us). Personal feedback will need to be scheduled by calling 530-822-7122.

## **General Rules for Observers**

### **Observers may:**

- Observe the proceedings at the polls, including the opening and closing procedures.
- Obtain information from the precinct index that is posted near the entrance.
- Make notes and watch all procedures.
- View election-related activities at the central counting site on Election Day.
- View the canvass of the vote activities following the election.
- View vote-by-mail and provisional ballot processing.
- Ask questions of poll workers or voters at the polls as long as they do not interfere with the conduct of any part of the voting process.
- Ask questions of supervisors at the central counting site as long as they do not interfere with the conduct of the election process.

### **Observers are responsible for:**

- Checking in at each site, whether polling place or central counting site.
- Wearing an identification badge.
- Maintaining a professional manner while observing the election processes.
- Ensuring they do not interfere with the elections process.

### **Observers may not:**

- Interfere, in the judgment of the elections official, in any way with the conduct of the election.
- Physically handle any voting materials or equipment.
- Sit at the official worktables or view confidential voter information on any work terminal.
- Communicate with voters (within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place) regarding the casting of a vote, or speak to a voter regarding his or her qualifications to vote.
- Display any election material or wear campaign badges, buttons or apparel.
- Wear the uniform of a peace officer, a private guard, or security personnel.
- Use cellular phones, pagers, or two-way radios inside the polling place and/or within 100 feet of the entrance to the polling place.
- Talk to or attempt to stop the central counting site workers while they are processing ballots.

- Use the telephones, computers or other polling place facilities at polling places or the central counting site.
- Make physical contact with election personnel.
- Eat or drink in the polls or the central counting site.
- Assist in operations at any polling place or the central counting site.